

TALK HANDOUT • OCTOBER 14, 2026 • BRADSHAW LIBRARY

AI is more than a chatbot

What changes when an AI can read your own material and reach the tools you work in, three ways I use it in my teaching, and how to start this week.

THE IDEA

Most of us use AI to answer questions and draft emails. It does far more when you give it two things: **something to read**, meaning your own material, and **something to reach**, meaning the systems it can act in.

Read and reach

- **Something to read:** your transcripts, syllabus, lecture notes, a rubric. The more of your own context it has, the less you have to explain.
- **Something to reach:** the places it can act for you, like Canvas, your files and your calendar. Reading makes it informed; reaching makes it useful.

Three ways I use it in my teaching

ROLE	WHAT IT DOES FOR ME
Coach	It researched how to teach, taught me new habits, and reviews every recorded lecture against a rubric I wrote.
Teaching assistant	It updates Canvas, builds modules and quizzes, and has a plan for each class waiting for me every morning. I review everything before it goes to students.
Researcher	It reads more than I can and summarizes it, from university policies to the week's markets and news.

TRY THIS WEEK

Record one class. Write a short rubric of what good teaching looks like to you. Ask an AI to score the transcript against it, and to quote the moments behind each score.

Get started with Claude Code

1. You need a paid Claude plan (Pro or Max, at claude.ai). Claude Code is included.
2. Install it from claude.com/claude-code. Prefer not to use a terminal? Use the Code tab in the Claude desktop app.
3. Make a folder for one course and put a few plain files in it: syllabus, notes, a to-do list.
4. Open the folder in Claude Code and ask it something only your files can answer.

Organize your context

Write it once and you never have to re-explain yourself:

```
my-teaching/  
  CLAUDE.md      read first: points to everything else  
  context.md     who you are, what each folder is for  
FIN-3403/  
  context.md     this course: syllabus, pacing, rules  
  todo.md        what is left to do
```

A word on student data

Check FGCU's guidance before sharing anything that identifies a student. Start with your own material: your notes, your syllabus, your own lectures.



Questions, or want to compare notes? Write to aayyash@fgcu.edu.

This handout, the slides and my notes from other talks are at akram.education/talks.

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Version 1.0, October 2026. My own notes, free to use for learning. Not an official FGCU document.